

# LICKING VALLEY COURIER.

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WHOLE NUMBER 156

## HOME COURSE IN SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE

### TENTH ARTICLE — CORN CULTIVATION.

By C. P. HARTLEY, Physiologist in  
Charge of Corn Investigations,  
United States Department  
of Agriculture.

THE methods of corn cultivation in general use in one section of the country differ greatly from those in another section. That certain kinds of cultivators or plows or methods of planting have been in use in Georgia or Iowa for many years does not prove that implements or methods found successful in other states might not be used there to advantage.

Full plowing cannot be recommended for all soils and localities, but should be more generally practiced than at present. If a cover crop or sod is turned under in the autumn decomposition will increase the amount of plant food available for the crop next summer. This is true to some extent even though sod is not turned under, inasmuch as the simple loosening of the soil admits atmospheric oxygen and increases chemical action upon vegetable and mineral matter. Fall and winter plowing is one of the best methods of combating insect pests. Because the surface of ground plowed in the fall is drier at planting time in the spring than that of ground not so treated, it does not necessarily follow that there is less moisture in fall plowed ground. The fall plowing has enabled the rainfall better to penetrate the subsoil, thus relieving the surface of its excess of moisture. In the spring fall plowed fields usually contain much more moisture, but at the same time have a drier surface than fields which remain unplowed until spring. In sections where there is much rain during the winter it is better not to harrow the fall plowed land in the autumn.



IOWA CORN.

This is especially true of fine clay soils that run together and pack readily. Deep spring plowing and spring subsoiling are likely to result in diminished crops, especially if done after the spring rains.

For a deep, rich soil deep plowing is best, provided it is done in the fall or does not render the soil too loose and dry. For this clay soil subsoiling is better than very deep plowing. The plowing should not be at the same depth from year to year. A little subsoil turned to the surface occasionally allows the elements to act upon it, liberating plant food, and as it becomes mingled with surface soil and vegetable growth the soil depth will be increased. It is well to plow a little deeper each year for several successive seasons and then for one season give a plowing at about half the depth of the deepest plowing. The plow should be so adjusted that it will turn all the soil and leave the surface smooth. In every instance spring plowed land should be pulverized the same day it is plowed.

Corn planted early most often gives the best yield. Corn should, of course, not be planted in cold or wet ground, but by good drainage, fall plowing, etc., every farmer should strive to have his land in good condition to plant at the proper time.

Underground drainage will prove most profitable in the end in handling low, wet land, but this is rather expensive. It is sometimes desirable to use low, flat land for corn before it is possible to have it tile drained. Sometimes such fields are plowed in small strips or "lands" 4 to 6 feet wide, and a row of corn is planted on the ridge or back furrow of every "land." This places the plants above surface water and for this reason is satisfactory during wet weather, but the high situation of the stalks is a disadvantage during dry weather. In a method of planting giving general satisfaction for such fields the ground is back furrowed in lands eight feet wide, making thereby dead

furrows every eight feet. On each side and two feet from each dead furrow shallow rows are marked off, and in them the corn is planted.

The labor saved by the use of planters is so great that for profitable corn growing their use is indispensable. Every spring the planter should be thoroughly tested and adjusted.

The proper depth to plant must be governed by the quality and moisture of the soil. If it is a stiff, heavy clay, containing plenty of moisture at planting time, one inch is sufficiently deep, but if it is a light, open, dry soil three or four inches is a satisfactory depth.

Fortify against dry weather by planting the seed in a furrow, covering it slightly, and then gradually cultivating the furrow full of soil as the plants grow. This method of planting is especially well adapted to deep soils where dry weather is likely to prevail during the middle or latter part of the growing season. The lister fulfills the requirements of this method.

The lister is used for planting fields that have been thoroughly plowed and also for planting directly in last year's cornfield or stubble field without previous preparation. This latter practice, however, is not recommended for shallow or stiff clay soils.

Perhaps more corn is now planted by means of a check rower than by any other device. Some successful growers of corn have found it profitable to use two row markers set the same width as their checkrows.

A proper number of stalks evenly distributed constitute the best stand for the production of ear corn. If planted thicker than this the weight of stover increases and the production of good ears decreases. If planted thinner the weight of stover, as well as of ears, decreases. Small growing varieties should be planted thicker than varieties producing tall stalks. The distance for planting in a particular soil should be decided upon and the planter adjusted to plant accurately and regularly. Spots missed by the planter, as well as those depleted by crows, insects, etc., greatly decrease the yield per acre. The custom of planting many times thicker than the stand of stalks desired is not a good one. If the seed germinates poorly it should not be planted, for, although a stand may be obtained by very thick planting, the stalks will not be thrifty, and a reduced yield will result from using the poor seed. If the seed shows a germination of 97 per cent or more in a thorough germination test and it is then properly planted the stand will be almost perfect unless very adverse weather ensues, in which case all the plants will be so injured that the planting of the entire field again will be preferable to replanting the missing hills and will be more easily accomplished. If a field has been drilled in but one direction and for any reason a poor stand is obtained it can be replanted with a checkrower set to drop one kernel at a time and operated without the tripping chain. The checkrower is driven at right angles to the rows of the first planting and is operated so as to plant just as it crosses each row. For this purpose two men will be required, one to drive and one to trip the checkrower as it crosses the corn rows.

The most successful corn growers realize the importance of thorough early cultivation, thus preventing any check in the growth of the plants because of weeds or crusted soil. Thrifty corn plants are thick, strong and of dark green color.

Horse weedeaters and harrows should be used when needed to break a surface crust, check insect depredations or kill young weeds that start before the corn is up or large enough to be worked with other implements. During the first cultivation, or while the plants are very small, narrow shovels that throw the soil but very little should be used, and fenders are usually found desirable to prevent the covering of the plants.

Many comparative experiments of deep and shallow cultivation have been made, and, on the whole, the results are in favor of shallow cultivation. If excessive rains have packed the soil and kept it water soaked deep cultivation will help to dry and aerate the soil. Breaking the roots of the plants must be avoided so far as possible. After the plants have reached a height of two or three feet the soil even in the middle of the rows should not be cultivated deeper than four inches, and usually a shallower cultivation will prove better. For retaining soil moisture a loose soil mulch two or three inches in thickness is advisable.

Corn should be cultivated often enough to keep down weeds and to maintain constantly a loose soil mulch till the corn has attained its growth. To this end a greater number of cultivations will be necessary when rains at intervals of about a week cause the surface soil to run together and crust. This crust must be broken and the soil mulch restored or evaporation will soon rob the soil of its moisture.

It is a mistake to think that the longer the drought the more frequent should be the cultivations. After a fine mulch of about three inches in depth has been produced its frequent stirring is not necessary, except in so far as it is required to keep weeds from starting. Many crops are cut short by stopping the cultivation, because the corn is too tall for use of a double cultivator without breaking down the stalks. If the condition of the soil demands it shallow cultivation should continue, even though the corn is tasseling.

It is sometimes profitable to remove weeds by the costly process of hand hoeing and even at as late a date as the silking time of the corn.

With a good riding or walking double cultivator one man can cultivate as many acres as two men with a one horse cultivator.

I am also in position to know

### Cisco's Farewell Letter.

The long days and nights of work and worry for the good of my department have at last drawn to a close and now I can only look back upon the past with regret for any failure on my part to do the best for them that it was possible for me to do. But in this look of retrospection I can see many things of which I am not ashamed. In my work in the grade during the fall term I had charge of a class of pupils that were to me good friends and willing pupils. I flatter myself with the opinion that I caused some of them at least to see the better way and to resolve for the best in them. They worked on till the close and when the final examinations came, not one failed to pass from the former grade in which he was working. The Eighth Grade succeeded in passing, every one to the High School department by graduating and receiving his diploma from the management of the school. At the beginning of the winter term the Board saw fit to change my work to the Normal Department, and after a winter of hard work we succeeded in preparing thirty for certificates. From our department we had 34 who took the teachers examination and out of the thirty-four we got 11 first-class certificates, 15 second-class and four third-class, and had four failures. Among the last named four some of them were only in our class eight or ten days, and on that account we feel that we are not so much to blame for their failure. It has been our desire to work for the good of the school ever since we were elected to the position of teacher, and how well we have done our duty remains for the good people of West Liberty and the country who patronized the department to say. But from the many urgent requests on the part of those who are interested in the school for me to remain and teach next year I judge that my efforts have not been in vain.

I feel that I have a host of real friends in the town, and on their account I would like to stay and teach, but on account of my wife's health and the difference in salary that I can get by going away I find it to my interest to leave for the West where I will take charge of the Davenport (Oklahoma) High School. There I will have the principals place and my wife the Primary department. My reason for making this statement here is because I have many friends who are inquiring after my future intentions and I use this means of informing them of my future work.

Now, to all those who have stood by me in my work here and held up my hands with kind words of encouragement, I wish to say 'From the bottom of my heart I thank you,' and should the opportunity ever come when I can be of service to you don't hesitate to call on me for I will always regard it as a pleasure to repay the kindness shown me while in your midst.

If I have an enemy here he is self made and for no mean act of mine toward him. My life has been an open book among you, and it remains for you to call attention to any unmanly act on my part.

Of all the real friends who have stood by me in my effort to do good while working here, I look upon the Licking Valley Courier as the best and most effective. It has been through the kindness of that paper that I have been in communication all the time with the friends of the school. And permit me to say just here that it is my opinion that the management of the school has not taken the right look of things in this connection. If ever the West Liberty High School attains to its highest degree of efficiency it will have to recognize the power of the home newspaper.

I am also in position to know

that the paper is not antagonistic to the school, but wants to be in full accord with it if given the proper treatment. I would suggest that the management of the school take a wider view of school needs and by all means treat your home paper in such way as to enlist its help in your undertaking.

To all the boys and girls of my departments I wish to say Good By and God bless you and help you to see the better way.

NOAH CISCO.

Jenkins, Ky. 5-25-1913  
Mr. H. G. Cottle  
West Liberty, Ky.

Dear Editor:

Having been a teacher of common schools of Kentucky for the past eight years, and Morgan County being my former home I wish to give the Courier my answer to the word, "Eugenics" as this is a subject that has been so rarely noticed by the people of our county.

But for the interest I have for my own people, and the many boys and girls whom I know and to get this subject before the eyes of the many intelligent readers of the Courier and especially the teachers who are to train the young minds who are to soon make up the citizenship of the county. I wish only to give you my answer in brief and hope to hear from others on this important subject. My answer is this: Eugenics is a science of increasing efficiency of species by proper selecting or breeding.

Sincerely yours,  
J. C. CANTRELL.

### Successful Commencement.

The commencement exercises of the West Liberty High School which closed last week were the most successful and the most largely attended of any ever held in West Liberty. Beginning Monday night the program extended throughout the entire week. Lack of space forbids us to make special mention of the exercises on each night, which we would like very much to do as it is richly deserved. The crowds were large, orderly and attentive; the interest manifested by patrons and friends of the school was intense.

The graduating class was composed of the following: Misses Lillian Cisco, Rebekah Phillips and Carrie Blair; Messrs. Chiles Henry and Clay Phipps. The address to the graduating class of the High School was delivered by Eld. H. M. Eastes, of Morehead. Prof. C. E. Clark, of Cannel City, delivered the address to the Eighth Grade graduating class.

On the whole the Commencement was highly satisfactory, both to the management of the school and to the public, and it is our hope and belief that it portends better things for West Liberty and Morgan county in the future.

### A Narrow Escape

Ruth, 5 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Womack, had a narrow escape from serious injury Monday Morning. She was leaning against a screen in an up-stairs window when it gave way letting her fall to the ground a distance of about twelve feet. Strangely enough she escaped almost entirely unhurt and was playing about within a short time as though nothing had happened.

### Notice.

The attention of some of our subscribers is respectfully called to the provision in our "Straw Vote" that the person voting must be a paid-in-advance yearly subscriber. We have recently received a number of ballots from persons who were not entitled to vote under this provision. Please bear this in mind and if you are in arrears send in the price of a year's subscription with your vote.

### West Liberty Wins From Grams Camp by the Score Of 4 To 3.

In one of the prettiest and hardest fought battles ever seen on the local lots, the strong Grams Camp team went down in defeat at the hands of our boys Friday afternoon by the close score of 4 to 3. The game was a pitcher's battle from start to finish between Byron Cisco of the locals and Roy Davis of the visitors, and either side had an equal chance to win until the last half of the ninth when Walter Stamp got a hit and stole second, and Kelly Carter sent him over with the winning run with a rattling single through short. Cisco pulled himself out of some very bad holes by using good judgement. In the seventh inning he struck out Hiram Armitage retiring the side with the bases full.

The game was very exciting throughout owing to the fact that the score was tied from the very first to the last inning. As you will notice by the box score that both teams scored in the first and third innings. Friday's victory run the total up to seven straight for the season without a single defeat.

The features of the game was the pitching of both Cisco and Davis the batting of M. Cisco and Davis, and Carter's single in the last half of the ninth inning which gave our boys the victory and broke up a good game.

Following is the box score.

W. Liberty	ab	h	r	po	a	e
Maxey 2b	4	0	2	5	1	0
C. Henry 3b	4	0	0	3	2	0
M. Cisco c	4	3	1	5	4	2
Stamp ss	4	1	1	1	3	0
Carter 1b	4	2	0	13	0	0
D. Henry cf	4	1	0	0	0	0
B. Cisco p	3	0	0	0	5	1
Cottle lf	3	0	0	0	0	1
Oakley rf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Total.	33	7	4	27	15	4

G. Camp	ab	h	r	po	a	e
H. Armitage c	4	0	0	5	4	1
O. P. Henry 3b	4	2	2	1	1	0
Davis p	4	3	1	1	4	0
Armitage ss	4	2	0	0	1	1
May 1b	4	0	0	14	1	2
Fugate 2b	4	1	0	4	2	0
A. Henry cf	4	0	0	0	0	0
Hale rf	4	0	0	0	0	0
Cottle lf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Total.	35	8	3	25	12	4

Innings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	total
W. L.	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	
G. Camp	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	

Batteries for Grams Camp: Davis and Herbert Armitage, for West Liberty, Cisco and Cisco. Struck out by Davis 9 by Cisco 7. Base on balls off Cisco 3 off Davis none. Hit by pitcher by Davis 1 by Cisco 1. stolen bases H. Armitage O. P. Henry, Fugate and Cottle. Maxey, M. Cisco and Stamp 2. Game called at 2:30 time 2 hours—Umpires Potts and Daniel.

On Saturday the Cannel City boys came down for a game with the local sluggers, the game resulting in a score of 12 to 6 in favor of West Liberty. We can't give the line up nor details of the game for want of space. This makes the 8th game the home boys have played and won. Let's see how long you can keep it up boys.

### Snake Kills Snake.

In South America they are now using snakes to catch snakes. Even in the most civilized parts of Brazil over 1,000 persons are killed annually by snake bite.

The mongoose, which proved so effective in Jamaica and elsewhere, is of little use here. Necessity is the mother of invention, and nature and science together have at last discovered something which it is hoped may exterminate the dreadful pest.

The discovery is nothing else than a "beneficent" snake which is harmless to man and which kills and eats the poisonous species.

The murrurana, as it is called,

is a thick, muscular snake about four feet long. It is possessed of an insatiable appetite for poisonous vipers and can tell of the approach of one in the same way that a pointer will "scent" game. When tackling its prey, which is frequently considerably bigger than itself, the "good" snake assumes a lethargic air, as if it were gluttoned with food and could not fight. Seeing this the bad snake immediately attacks.

This is just what the other wants, for, being rendered by nature completely immune from the poison, it seizes its enemy before it has had time to recover from the charge and gives a fatal bite at the base of the brain.

—Ex.

### Efficiency.

The bureau of foreign and domestic commerce has made a report that a comparison of seventeen industries in Great Britain and the United States shows that the manufacturing establishments in this country have higher efficiency, and that two and a half times as many wage-earners and one-sixth more power are needed in the United Kingdom than in the United States to produce a net output of equal value.

Plainly the people of the United States have nothing to fear in the department of commercial effort.—Commoner.

Mr Editor:

You are hereby authorized to remove my announcement from the columns of your valuable paper. And now for the benefit of my friends I shall give the reason why.

I wanted to run a fair race, and let the party decide upon the merits of the various candidates; but as my opponents have promised an unfair number of deputies (or so I have been informed) I feel that the only honorable thing is for me to quit the race in favor of no one. I have no interest whatever in the candidacy of any other man in the Jailer's race. So I unconditionally liberate my friends from any obligation to me, with the highest appreciation and many thanks for the encouragement given me I remain,

Yours most sincerely  
E. J. WEBB.

### COURIER READERS

Expressing Their Choice for the  
County Offices. Have You?

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Representative	
J. H. Sebastian	64
E. F. Cecil	56
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Alex Whiteaker	50
S. S. Dennis	55
G. V. Lykins	42
County Attorney	
S. M. R. Hurt	49
Frank Kennaird	51
H. C. Rose	39
B. R. Keeton	15
O. J. McKinzie	8
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T. N. Barker	65
C. E. Clark	48
J. W. Davis	49
County Clerk	
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USE THE COLUMNS OF THE  
COURIER TO TELL THE PEOPLE  
WHAT YOU HAVE TO SELL.

### Local and Personal.

John Coffee, of Logville, was in the city Monday.

Walter Henry, of Henry, was here on business yesterday.

Davis Johnston, of Dan, visited relatives in this vicinity last week.

Judge O. P. Carter, of Bonny, was in the city on business yesterday.

Judge A. N. Cisco is attending Circuit Court at Morehead this week.

C. C. Maxey and family are camping at the mouth of Spaw creek this week.

Denny Nickell, of Neola, attended commencement here the last of last week.

John Nickell, of Insko, was here several days last week attending commencement.

Winford Cox has returned from Lexington where he has been attending the State University.

Miss Mabel Thompson, who has been attending school at Midway the past term, has returned home.

Miss Stella Cisco, who attended Hamilton College at Lexington the past term, has returned home.

Tom Boyd, of Morehead, representing Kitchen, Whitt & Co., was here yesterday calling on our grocers.

Miss Josephine Phillips, of Liberty Road, spent a few days last week with her cousin Miss Kathleen Phipps.

Prof. H. C. Wilson left Tuesday for Lexington where he will spend vacation and take a much needed rest.

W. M. Kendall left Sunday for Louisville to visit Mrs. Kendall who is being treated at St. Joseph's Infirmary.

R. C. Dellart, who has a position with the Cincinnati Traction Co., visited home folk last week and this.

Dr. A. P. Gullett will be at Netty Ky., June 5 to 13 inclusive to do dental work. 156-17.

Misses Pearl Vance, of White Oak, and Wannie Williams, of Malone, visited Miss Margaret Johnston from Friday till Sunday.

Quite a crowd of Hazel Green people attended the play given by the Normal Department at the High School auditorium Saturday night.

Henry Cole has bought the Denny Lykins stock of groceries and will continue the business at the same stand. Watch for his ad next week.

Herbert and Hiram Armitage and G. B. Carter, of Frenchburg, were here last Friday at the ball game, the two former playing with Grams Camp.

Maj. J. W. Fields, of Coeburn, Va., is visiting his many friends and relatives of Morgan and Wolfe, and will visit in Menefee county before he returns to Virginia.

Clay Cisco, of Mt. Sterling, attended Decoration Day services at the family burying ground near Mathew and stayed over night in West Liberty as he went home.

C. W. Womack and family have gone on a sixty days camping trip. Mr. Womack's health was such that he required rest from his business and he is camping in the hills.

Misses Rose Henry, of Pomp, Mattie Stamper, of Sellers, Orange Oakley, city, and Mr. Dora Wilson, of Insko, were welcome visitors at the Courier office Thursday afternoon.

Prof. Noah Cisco, Scout Master, and his Boy Scouts, accompanied by quite a crowd of West Liberty's young ladies and gentlemen, are camping for the week on the river a few miles above town.

It is rumored that J. M. Cottle and Miss Anna Callahan were secretly married one day last week. In the absence of first-hand information this is the best account of the affair we can give.

Work began on the John Carter oil well this week, and I. N. Phipps has moved his machinery on the Sturdivent place in the lower end of town and will begin work as soon as a derrick can be built.

Mrs. James J. P. Haney, Henry Cole and J. H. Sebastian will serve ice cream and sherbet at Henry Cole's grocery Friday afternoon and evening for the benefit of the M. E. church. Everybody invited.

Eel, Ky., June 3, 1913.

Publisher Courier,  
West Liberty, Ky.

I enclose some ballots for "straw vote," and check for renewal of R. F. Davis.

Respectfully  
T. F. CARR.

LOST—A bunch of keys for the Graded School building. Keys were lost the last part of commencement week. A suitable reward will be paid for their return to the board of trustees.

C. W. WOMACK Chairman.

### Child Badly Hurt

A twelve year old daughter of Will Gambill's who lives on long branch two miles above town, fell from a Service tree Saturday, about twenty feet, striking a solid rock, and sustained serious if not fatal injuries. Up to the present she is in a semi-conscious state and her recovery is considered very doubtful.